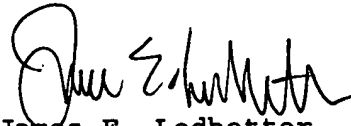


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims in favor of new claims 9-25. This Preliminary Amendment amends the claims to correspond to the Article 19 amendment, pursuant to MPEP 1893.01(a)(2), second paragraph.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 30, 2005

JEL/spp

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